

# CAPSULE SUMMARY CT-1142

Norfolk barn A is the oldest barn on the Norfolk farm. The Norfolk farm is located on the east side of highway four, just slightly south of Dunkirk town center. The farm is relatively large, and once served as both a tobacco and dairy farm. The Norfolk family purchased the property in 1913 and moved here from the Lower Marlboro area, where Mr. Norfolk's father had been a tenant farmer. The barn was on the property when it was purchased. Norfolk barn A is on the east side of the highway, and the closest to it of any of the barns on the property. The original farm house is set on top of a hill, a little bit to the north of barn A. This hill was the original site of the barn. The barn was moved from this site in 1917, when the Norfolk family decided to use the site to build their house. This forty by twenty-four foot barn has a cross-axial plan, hewn timbers and fully mature machine cut nails. There is a sixteen foot wide shed built on to its south facade. It is typical of the ante-bellum period of barn construction in Southern Maryland. An enclosed stripping room area was built in to the southwest corner of the shed ca. 1932.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-1142

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Norfolk Barn A

## 2. Location

street & number (Highway 4) Southern Maryland Boulevard \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Dunkirk Chaneyville  
\_\_\_X vicinity of congressional district

state MD county Calvert

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	___ not applicable	___ no	___ military	X other: unused

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. Calvret Norfolk

street & number So. Maryland Blvd telephone no.: 257-6372

city, town Owings state and zip code MD 20736

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio

city, town Prince Frederick state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. CT-1142

### Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

### Check one

☐ original site

☒ moved

date of move

1917

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

See Attachment.

## 8. Significance

Survey No.

CT-1142

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

See Attachment.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1142

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Lower Marlboro, MDQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tora Williamsen-Berryc/o Calvert County Historic District Commissionorganization Dept. of Planning and Zoningdate June 30, 1990street & number Courthousetelephone 535-1600city or town Prince Frederickstate MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

## 7. DESCRIPTION CT-1142

Norfolk barn A is the oldest barn on the Norfolk farm. The Norfolk farm is located on the east side of highway four, just slightly south of Dunkirk town center. The farm is relatively large, and once served as both a tobacco and dairy farm. The Norfolk family purchased the property in 1913 and moved here from Lower Marlboro area, where Mr. Norfolk's father had been a tenant farmer. The barn was on the property when it was purchased. Norfolk barn A is on the east side of the highway, and the closest to it of any of the barns on the property. The farm road runs past the north facade of the barn. There are two other tobacco barns on the farm, one on the opposite side of highway four, to the west, and the other slightly to the east of barn A. There is also a dairy barn on the farm that is located to the north, near the new farm house. The original farm house is set on top of a hill, a little bit to the north of barn A. This hill was the original site of the barn. The barn was moved from this site in 1917, when the Norfolk family decided to use the site to build their house. This forty by twenty-four foot barn has a cross-axial plan, hewn timbers and fully mature machine cut nails. There is a sixteen foot wide shed built on to its south facade. It is typical of the ante-bellum period of barn construction in Southern Maryland.

The forty foot length of the barn is divided into five eight foot wide bays. The central bay serves as a central aisle, and the sills have been cut out from this aisle in order to accommodate vehicle passage. There are cross-sills on either side of this central aisle. There are two four foot wide doors centered on each of the gable ends, and a large double twelve foot wide door centered on the south facade of the shed. There are pintel holes remaining in the doorposts along the south facade of the barn, from where a door once stood prior to the building of the shed addition.

Concrete and wooden blocks, in addition to some large unmortared fieldstones, support the frame. The timbers are large hewn and pit sawn timbers attached with fully mature machine cut nails. The posts are joined by mortise and tenon joints and held with trunnels. One of the cross-sills is a circular sawn replacement. Vertical siding covers the barn. There is one hinged ventilation door on each eight foot bay. These hinged ventilation doors were added when the barn was moved. The south facade wall of the barn was once sided. This is indicated by the remaining fully mature machine cut nails in the nailers. Shingle nailers are visible underneath the standing seam metal roof. The roof rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. There are four windbraces (one on each diagonal) on the roof. These windbraces extend into the shed. Three collars and king posts also help to support the roof. The poles down the central axis are peeled logs with holes drilled out and pegs inserted. The peeled log tier poles then rest on these pegs. The tier poles are separated by forty-three inches vertical distance, and there are four levels of them before the tie beam. Other tobacco remains in the barn

7. Description CT-1142 (continued).

include tobacco sticks, iron wagon wheels, and "salamander" heaters, similar to those used in Florida to heat the orange groves.

## 7. DESCRIPTION CT-1142

The sixteen foot wide shed is supported on earth-fast principal posts. There is a large twelve foot wide double doorway centered along its south facade. The top plate is hewn, the tie beams and rafters are re-used timbers. The nailing rails are all circular sawn. Plain vertical wall siding with hinged ventilation doors covers the exterior walls of the shed. There is one ventilation door each eight feet. Wooden shingle nailers are visible underneath the standing seam metal roof. The shed was built after 1890 -- all nails are wire, but before the move in 1913. There is a stripping room area that was built into the southwest corner of the shed ca. 1932. All that remains of this stripping room is some evidence of siding along its east wall, two windows on the west side and boarded up windows on the south side. According to Mr. Norfolk, this was the first inside stripping area built in the third election district.



## 8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1142

This barn is significant as an example of the typical ante-bellum barn in Southern Maryland. Its forty by twenty-four foot measurements and cross-axial plan are the most frequent arrangement for barns of this period. The location of a shed on the south side is also frequently seen. The barn is also significant because of the oral history provided in conjunction with it. Mr. Norfolk states that the barn was here when the family moved here in 1913 and was moved to its current site in 1917. Apparently, when the barn was moved, the original mortises and materials (including nails) were re-used. The stripping room in the southwest corner is important because, according to Mr. Norfolk, it was the first internal stripping room built in the third election district.

This barn also yields information regarding agricultural history in Southern Maryland. In February 1990, a tobacco barn survey was initiated in order to study the tobacco barns of Calvert County. Until fairly recently, tobacco was the most important farm crop of the county. More acreage was devoted to its cultivation than for both of the next most extensive farm products (corn and wheat). The barns and stripping houses related to this "Tobacco Culture" are widely recognized as the most common element on the rural landscape. These structures are also the most threatened, as the market for tobacco declines. They seem to have, at present, only limited capabilities for re-use. Many barns and stripping houses now stand empty. The purpose of this survey has been to gather information and document a wide sample of these structures before they disappear from the landscape.

Historical Period theme(s): ca. 1830-; Tobacco; Agriculture  
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD  
Chronological/Developmental Period: ca. 1830-Present  
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

This farm is up for sale, and is zoned industrial, so it is likely that a large portion of it will soon be developed. The dairy on the farm was the last operating milk run in Calvert County. The farm is now used solely as a residence and for growing small private crops. There has been no tobacco grown on the farm for four years. Norfolk barn A was standing when the Norfolk family moved here in 1913. The Norfolks moved the barn in 1917 in order to build a house on the same site as that previously occupied by the barn. Mr. Norfolk and his father moved the barn. At the time it was moved, the shed was extant. According to Mr. Norfolk, tobacco was loaded into ox-carts and unloaded at all four doors. This was done until the 1920s, when vehicles began to go into the barns. Parts of the sills and some of the internal posts were replaced when the barn was moved. Later alterations include the removal of the sill from across the central doorway, the replacement of the shingle roof with metal, and the building of an internal stripping room area ca. 1932.

## Field Notes

CT - 1142

#2115 - Norfolk barn A in Dunkirk MD. Farm is on east side of highway four just past Stevenson Pools. Private Ownership, unoccupied. TW recorder. Sunny and pleasant weather. No tobacco grown for four years. Barn built when family moved here in 1913. Moved barn in 1917 in order to build house on same site as previously occupied by barn. Mr. Norfolk and his father moved the barn. At the time it was moved, the shed was extant. According to Mr. Norfolk, tobacco was loaded into ox-carts and unloaded at all four doors until the 1920s, when vehicles began to go into the barns. Parts of the sills and some of the internal posts were replaced when the barn was moved.

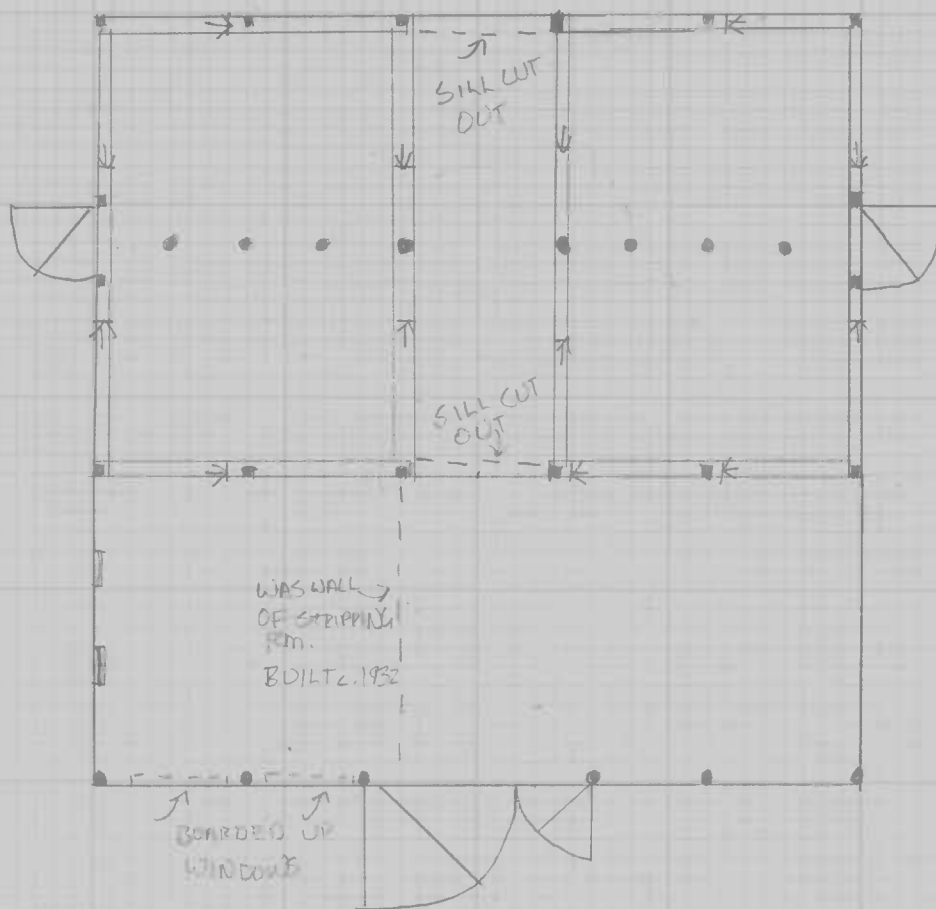
Concrete and wooden blocks support the frame, in addition to some large unmortared fieldstones. The timbers are large hewn and pit sawn timbers attached with fully mature machine cut nails. The posts are joined by mortise and tenon joints and held with trunnels. One of the cross-sills is a circular sawn replacement. Vertical siding covers the barn. Hinged ventilation doors were added when it was moved. There is one hinged ventilation door on each eight foot bay. Shingle nailers are visible underneath the standing seam metal roof. The roof rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. There are four windbraces (one on each diagonal) on the roof. These windbraces extend into the shed. Three collars and king posts also help to support the roof. Peeled log tier poles rest on pegs set into the central axis poles. The tier poles are separated by forty-three inches vertical distance, and there are four levels of them before the tie beam. The poles down the central axis are peeled logs with holes drilled out and pegs inserted. Other tobacco remains in the barn include tobacco sticks, iron wagon wheels, and "salamander" heaters. Door from south side barn removed. Stripping room area built into barn ca. 1932, according to Mr. Norfolk, was first stripping area in third election district.

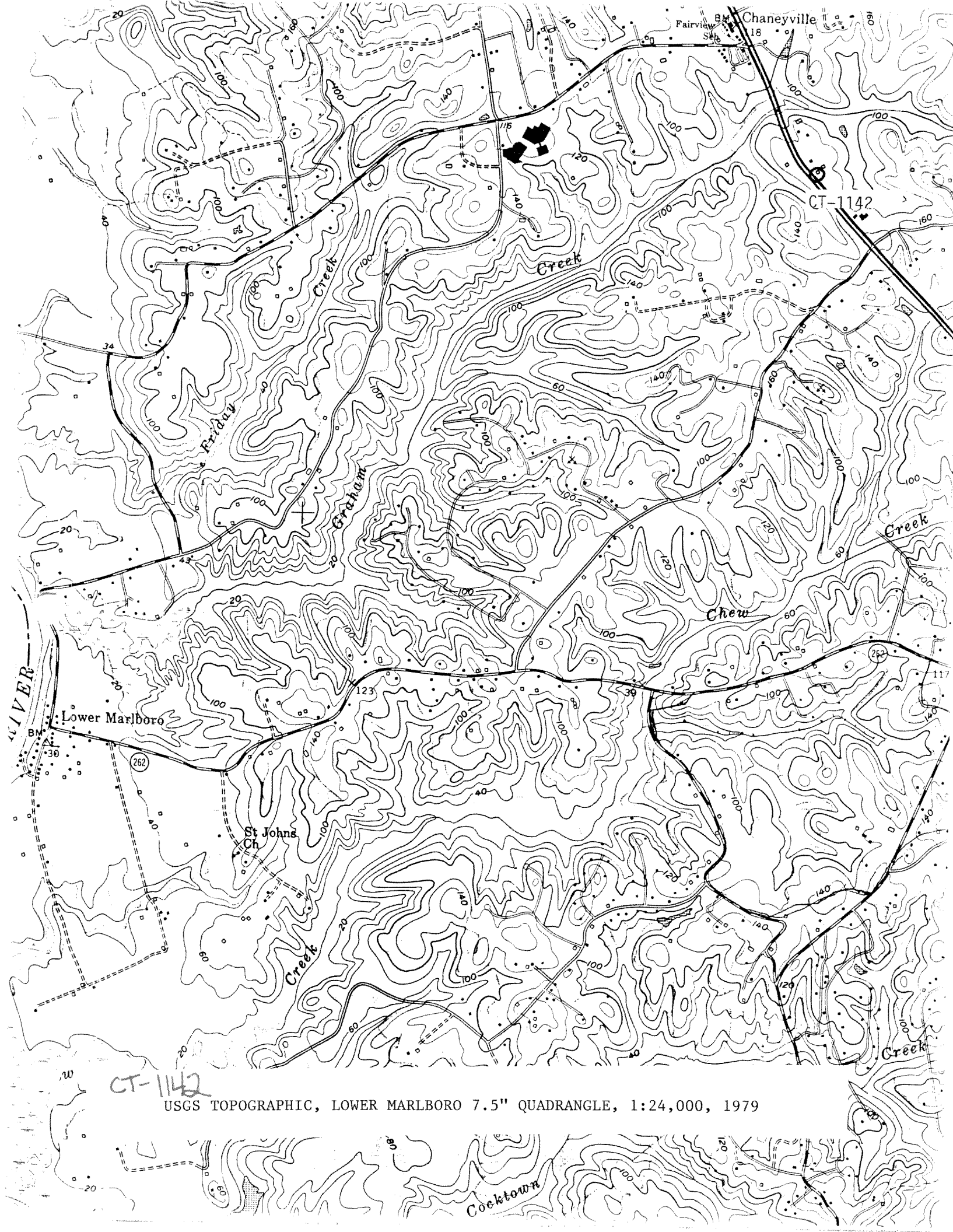
The shed is formed of earth-fast principal posts. The top plate is hewn, the tie beams and rafters are re-used timbers -- previously studs. The nailing rails are all circular sawn. Plain vertical wall siding with hinged ventilation doors covers the exterior. There is one ventilation door each eight feet. Wooden shingle nailers are visible underneath the standing seam metal roof. The shed was built after 1890 -- all nails are wire, but before move in 1913.

CT-1142

BARN #2115 NORFOLK BARN A

W 5/24/90





USGS TOPOGRAPHIC, LOWER MARLBORO 7.5" QUADRANGLE, 1:24,000, 1979



CT 1142

NORFOLK BARN 'A'

DUNKIRK

NORTHEAST

TORA L. WILLIAMSEN

MAY, 1990